TIMES-VIRGINIAN

In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt

Appomattox, Virginia

VIRGINIA PRESS ASSOCIATION

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A LONG AND FAITHFUL SERVICE

Appomattox Postmaster E. LeRoy Smith will retire at the end of the year, after a long and faithful service to the patrons of the local Post Office. For over two decades he has been efficient in this position, and has gone beyond the line of duty to render extra services at one of the busiest positions in the community. The remarkable feature about his service has been his devotion to duty, and that fact that he has stayed on the job when he could have been using annual leave.

The community has grown very rapidly during the two decades of Postmaster Smith's service. And the Post Office has kept pace, if not, indeed, set the pace. One of the best evidences of the volume of business activity in Appomattox is the fact that ours is a first-class office.

We are confident that E. LeRoy Smith will not retire from community life merely because he is retiring as Postmaster. And we predict that he will have one of the best vegetable and flower gardens in town next season! On behalf of the community, we thank him for his long and faithful service, and wish him a long lifetime in our midst.

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TIME MOST PRECIOUS

If someone asked you to name your most valuable possession, you would certainly have to consider listing: Time.

What else is it that you have that must be used correctly now, or pass forever along life's road and never return — and your supply of which gets smaller every day, every hour?

If time is among your most priceless possessions, it stands to reason that you should use always use the shortening supply of it well. At this season, when we are about to enter a New Year, it would be well to note that the best use of time would not necessarily be to try to crowd too much into an allotment of time. Perhaps we would be doing ourselves a great service by organizing our program of life so as to provide for a fair amount of leisure and recreation, and attention to cultural development. You will never have as much time left as you have at this very moment. That's a pretty good argument for making the best use of what's left.

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HEADACHES AND YOU

A recent survey shows that medical students have more headaches than any other group of citizens in the United States. Running medical students a close second are the business executives.

Medical students, the survey showed, are found to have headaches in a percentage ratio of approximately eighty per cent. Thus, four out of five medical students suffer from recurring headaches.

Business executives run them a close second, and it is estimated that seventy-seven per cent of all business executives suffer from headaches. Total figures that over fifty per cent of the general population have headaches.

If you have been wondering which group has the fewest headaches, it is the farmer group. Only only out of every two farmers, or fifty per cent, are thought to suffer from headaches. Manual laborers do pretty well, and only fifty-five per cent of them suffer from headaches. Salesmen suffer at a ratio of about fifty-eight per cent, and sixty-eight per cent of all clerks are found to suffer from headaches.

Seventy per cent of the housewives surveyed suffer from recurring headaches and professional persons are just one point higher, seventy per cent of them suffering from recurring headaches.

No one need interpret these figures. It is obvious that the tension of modern life, especially for those in the tension-filled occupations, are putting a severe load on our nervous systems. These figures help explain the increasing number of heart attacks, and strokes, suffered by Americans, as contrasted to lesser percentage occurences of these attacks among the peoples of other countries of the world.

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TEN FOOTBALL DEATHS

Recent figures show that this season ten boys have been killed playing football. Eight of the ten were high school students and the other two were in the lower grades.

Investigation showed that most of the injuries which proved fatal to these boys centered around their head and neck. Therefore, it seems to be the obligation of sports clothing manufacturers, and all others concerned, including various authorities, coaches, and even parents, to see that some improvement is made in the protective features of football wear, around the head and neck.

Human factors enter into the picture, just as in automobile death tolls. In recent years, safety belts, safety glass, crash-padding, safety-steering wheels, safety locks, and all sorts of devices have been installed on automobiles. Yet to make every phase of human activity safer, is a continuing order of the day.

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MINOR PARTIES FAIL

The greatest failure in the election last November was not scored by the Democratic presidential candidate. The minor parties fared even worse. The total vote for all candidates was between 61 and 62 million. Of these, fewer than 400,000 votes went to the Prohobition party, the States' Rights movement, three Socialist candidates, and Henry P. Krajewski, a New Jersey pig farmer who ran on his own got 1,829 votes.

It would seem to us that those who dream of a successful third in the United States can find scant encouragement from what happened at the polss last November.

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Emotions are valuable, but civilization teaches self-control.

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No matter what kind of organization you can think of, somebody will join.

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Americanism: Man, working hard to acquire a fortune in order to be able to play, and then dying because they failed to play.

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When you run across an individual who thinks he knows it all, the best way to enjoy yourself is to keep quiet and let him enjoy himself.

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An educated man can argue without losing his temper and without resorting to abusive adjectives.

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Being courteous may require a little extra time but, in the long run, it often saves time.

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A cat may have nine lives but, when you are on the highway, remember that you are not a cat.

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Freedom is a gift from the past but it is not at all certain that it will be a legacy to the future.

Washington Notes

THE CAPITOL

Preparatory to inauguration ceremonies the latter part of January, the Capitol has been washed and painted. Congress appropriated $215,000 for the necessary accounterments to the Capitol and its grounds for the second inauguration of President Eisenhower. This includes a special roofed platform with wooden Grecian columns and 15,700 seats in front. Work on the inauguration stand and seats began in September.

FIRST IN PARADE

Deleware, the first State to ratify the United States Constitution, will head a shortened presidential inaugural parade on January 21. Four years ago, the Delaware delegation was supplanted at the head of the line by Kansas, boyhood home of President Eisenhower, and by California, home of Vice President Nixon. However, this year, the State delegations will be in the parade "in order of their entry into the union."

U. S. IMPORTS

The value of U. S. general imports reached a record high of $1,120,000,000 in October, about 2 per cent higher than the previous peak of $1,100,000,000 set in March, 1951 and March, 1956. Total imports for the first ten months of 1956 were valued at $10,556,900,000 or 13 per cent above the valuation of $9,310,500,000 for the similar period last year.

BUILDING

Construction during November showed a 14 per cent seasonal drop from October and stood at the lowest level for November since 1951, according to the Labor Department. Construction was begun on 80,000 houses and apartments in November, while, for the 11 months of 1956, a total of 1,055,000 homes were begun.

HEALTH RESEARCH

Seventy-three grants totaling 224,460,467 in Federal aid for the building of medical research laboratories have been announced by Dr. Leroy E. Burney, Surgeon General of the Public Health Service. The awards granted were limited to buildings because of the critical need for construction. In later years, assistance will be given in providing research equipment.

URANIUM OUTPUT

The Atomic Energy Commission has revealed that production of raw ore and uranium concentrate that was milled from the ore had doubled within the past year. As of Nov. 1, domestic ore reserves — the uranium still in the ground — amounted to 60,000,000 tons. About 41,000,000 tons, or 68.4 per cent, are in New Mexico.

PUBLIC CONTRIBUTORS

The American public is expected to contribute an estimated $378,000,000 to the 2,000 united community campaigns this fall. The projected figure is almost twelve per cent more than the $340,000,000 raised by the same agencies last year.

ACCIDENTS

Accidents now rank first as the cause of deaths in persons between the ages of one and thirty-five years. They are fourth as the cause of deaths in all age groups. Accidents in 1955 killed 93,000 persons. This included 38,000 killed in automobiles.

AID TO ASIA

Of the $1,500,000,000 obligated in non-military United States foreign aid during the last fiscal year, the Far East received almost half. Of this amount, $726,500,000 was for "defense support" and went to South Korea, Nationalist China and South Viet Nam.

SCHOOL AID

The Federal Government contributed more than $1,500,000,000 to 181 educational programs in the 1954-55 school year. The Federal expenditures included aid to the school districts crowded with children because of new Federal activities, veterans' education, school lunches, agricultural extension work and education of Indians.

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Let's Make Appomattox Even Bigger & Better .....In 1957

Appomattox has just experienced a traditional Christmas Season, featured by family gatherings, religious activities and an excellent business throughout the community. Now that the Christmas trees and decorations are coming down, it is time for us to turn our faces toward the New Year.

The sponsors of this page feel a personal sense of gratitude to each and every one in this trade area who has contributed to the many outstanding achievements of 1956. The year now ending will be long remembered for the friendships made and the welding together of our interests as a growing community.

That Appomattox "is a growing town" is one of the most accurate statements we can think of. At year's end, we take inventory not only of merchandise and tangible assets, but also survey overall community betterment, and the intangible attribute of friendships and cooperative achievements. And it is when we do this that we are made conscious of the part each individual plays, the role of each separate business in building a record of progress.

One thing particularly impresses us about our fine town, and community and that is the sound and well-balanced nature of its economy. It delights us to drive about our countryside and see the impressive evidence of a sound farm economy and see the obvious results of good management and modern handling of the agricultural operation. Our county looks entirely different, and better, than it did a decade or so ago. We congratulate our farmers upon the record they are making, and we are proud to have opportunity to serve them in their business needs. We look for another fine year in 1957.

We also congratulate our outstanding pay-roll industries for the production records made during the past year. It is only fair to state that regular pay-rolls contribute tremendously to the business life of the community, and also are reflected in every civic program. We hope that 1957 will see our industries prosper and that Appomattox may continue to offer steady employment to large numbers of workers.

The year 1957 is already being anticipated as a great one for the State of Virginia. It will mark the 350th anniversary of the establishment of the first permanent English settlement, at Jamestown in 1607. Many Virginia towns and cities and counties are planning special events for 1957, and the prediction is that several million additional tourists are to come to see us next year. Appomattox is one of the top historical shrines of the state, and local business firms are already cooperating in plans for extending a warm hospitality to these visitors.

If there is anything better than "a growing town" it is "a friendly town." We dedicate ourselves to strive during 1957 to make our town and community bigger and better in every way. We invite you to do business in Appomattox!

Remember: The Red Cross Bloodmobile is in Appomattox today! There may still be time to be a donor!

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